

NSC BRIEFING

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BACKGROUND: ZHUKOV'S MAY DAY SPEECH

- I. Zhukov's May Day speech was brief but typically bombastic and confident. He touched briefly on each of USSR's current major propaganda themes.
 - A. Disarmament: "Our proposals on a reduction of armed forces, suspension of tests of nuclear weapons and their prohibition... vitally reflect important interests of all mankind. However, imperialist circles...stubbornly reject these proposals."
 - B. Colonialism: "The imperialists...headed by reactionary forces of the US...[are] pursuing a policy of restoration of the old colonial system...are doing everything to isolate the Arab countries from each other and to break their will in their struggle for independence."
 - C. US Atomic Bases: "Decision of the US to station atomic units on territories of other governments, and refusal to accept our proposals on banning tests of atomic weapons and on their liquidation brings nearer the danger of the beginning of atomic war..."
 - D. Soviet Defense: "The Party and the Gov't, taking into account the ceaseless machinations of reactionary forces, will continue to strengthen the defensive power of the Soviet state. In reply to the aggressive intrigues of the imperialist circles, the Soviet people consider it their duty to incessantly increase the fighting capacity of their troops. [The Soviet] armed forces possess...all modern means...for the rout of any